

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EUR-12 /074 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1181

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 2 1 5 9

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH, TO

SUBJECT: STATEMENTS ON RHODESIAN NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 227356, (B) STATE 239436, (C) LOME 2150,

1. TEXT TRANSMITTED REF A DELIVERED TO FORMIN KODJO AND DIRECTOR OF CABINET MFA ABASSEM MORNING SEPTEMBER 25, A FEW HOURS PRIOR TO FORMIN'S DEPARTURE FOR UNGA. REF B TEXT DELIVERED TO SECGEN MFA MORNING SEPTEMBER 27. WHEN DELIVERING LATTER, CHARGE TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO SECGEN FOR HELPFUL GOT DECLARATION (REF C). DEMEDEIROS TOOK STEPS IN CHARGE'S PRESENCE TO HAVE DEPARTMENT'S DECLARATION DELIVERED TO PRESIDENCY. DEMEDEIROS GENERALLY AVOIDED SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT, BUT IN RESPONSE TO EXPRESSION OF PLEASURE THAT TOGO AND U.S. HAD PARALLEL VIEWS ON RHODESIAN SITUATION, DEMEDEIROS SAID IT WAS GOOD TO ENCOURAGE NEGOTIATIONS. THE KEY QUESTION, HOWEVER, WAS WHETHER SMITH WAS GOING TO BACK OUT OF HIS PROMISE ON MAJORITY RULE.

2. COMMENT: COMING JUST AFTER GOT STATEMENT, LUSAKA DECLARATION-- AND GENERAL PRESS CHARACTERIZATION OF IT AS A REJECTION BY FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS OF NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT--HAS PROBABLY CAUGHT GOT OFF-BALANCE AND EXPLAINS DEMEDEIROS' RETICENCE. A FOLLOW-UP DEPARTMENT STATEMENT GIVING MORE DETAILED BASIS FOR USG OPTIMISM THAT ROAD IS OPEN TO NEGOTIATED SOLUTION COULD BE HELPFUL IN HOLDING GOT TO A PUBLIC POSITION IN FAVOR OF NEGOTIATIONS ON
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BASIS OF UK PLAN.

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Message Attributes

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